

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:
 - a surface having a plurality of cells, each cell in said plurality having a corresponding plurality of nanostructures disposed between said surface and
 - 5 an electrolyte fluid;
 - an altering substance disposed on said surface; and
 - means for contacting said electrolyte fluid with said altering substance in at least a first cell in said plurality of cells in a way such that, upon contacting said altering substance, at least a portion of said electrolyte is
 - 10 substantially altered.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for contacting comprises means for decreasing the angle of contact between said electrolyte and said nanostructures in a way such that said electrolyte penetrates said nanostructures.
- 15 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said means for decreasing comprises means for applying a voltage to said nanostructures.
4. An apparatus for neutralizing an electrolyte fluid comprising:
 - a surface having a plurality of cells, each cell in said plurality having a corresponding plurality of nanostructures disposed between said surface and
 - 20 said electrolyte fluid;
 - a neutralizing substance disposed on said surface; and
 - a voltage generator for applying a voltage to said nanostructures, wherein, upon said voltage being applied to said nanostructures, the angle of contact between said electrolyte and said nanostructures decreases
 - 25 in a way such that said electrolyte penetrates said nanostructures, thus contacting said neutralizing substance.

5. A method for altering an electrolyte liquid in a battery, said battery comprising an electrode, said electrode comprising a surface having a plurality of nanostructures disposed thereon, said surface divided into a plurality of end-of-life cells, said method comprising:
- 5 selectively passing a voltage across a portion of the nanostructures in said end-of life cells in a way such that said electrolyte fluid penetrates said nanostructures and contacts a altering substance on said surface.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein said altering substance comprises a neutralizing substance.
- 10 7. A method for altering an electrolyte liquid in a battery, said battery comprising an electrode, said electrode comprising a surface divided into a plurality of end-of-life cells, said method comprising:
- 15 selectively passing a voltage across a portion of said surface in said end-of life cells in a way such that said electrolyte fluid contacts an altering substance on said surface.
8. The method of claim 5 wherein said altering substance comprises a neutralizing substance.